

**REMARKS**

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 8-14 and 17 in view of the following remarks.

**Status of the Application**

Claims 8-14 and 17 are pending in this application. Claims 1-7, 15, and 16 were previously withdrawn. Claims 8-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. Claims 8-13 have been amended.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2**

Based on the amendments to claims 8-13, applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection has been rendered moot and that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

\* \* \* \* \*

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056207.53098US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 14, 2007

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